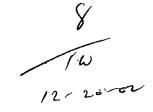
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DOCKET NO. 2343-114-27



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION OF: MARK E. ZAPPI, ET AL.

ART UNIT: 17

1724

SERIAL NO.: 09/837,189

EXAMINER:

CINTINS, I.C.

FILING DATE: APRIL 19, 2001

FOR:

ON-SITE BIOLOGICAL TREATMENT OF CONTAMINATED FLUIDS

RESPONSE TO ELECTION OF SPECIES REQUIREMENT

ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS WASHINGTON, D.C. 20231

SIR:

Responsive to the Election of Species Requirement dated November 20, 2002, Applicants elect, albeit with traverse from Group I, water; from Group II, kneaf, and from Group III, TNT for further prosecution at this time.

REMARKS

The Examiner has required an election of species in the above-identified application, specifically, election of one of each group of the following species is required:

Group I:

contaminated fluid species (e.g., water, air, etc.);

Group II:

cellulose-based material species (e.g., hay, wood

chips, peat, nut shells, kenaf, etc.); and

Group III:

contaminant species (e.g., TNT, phenols, ketones, cadmium,

mercury, nitrate, phosphate, etc).

In compliance with the election of species requirement Applicants have elected with traverse the fluid species of water (Claims 1-14), the cellulose-based material of kenaf (Claims 1-14), and the contaminant species of TNT (Claims 1-9 and 11-14) for further prosecution at this time.